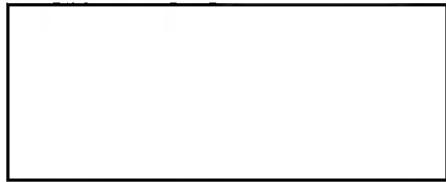


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21 June 1969



Approved For Release 2004/03/11 : CIA-RDP79T00975A014000030002-1

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Approved For Release 2004/03/11 : CIA-RDP79T00975A014000030002-1

Approved For Release 2004/03/11 : CIA-RDP79T00975A014000030002-1

21 June 1969

Central Intelligence Bulletin

CONTENTS

Canada-NATO: Criticism of Canada's force reduction plans is apparently having an effect in Ottawa.
(Page 5)

25X1

Approved For Release 2004/03/11 : CIA-RDP79T00975A014000030002-1

Next 4 Page(s) In Document Exempt

Approved For Release 2004/03/11 : CIA-RDP79T00975A014000030002-1

25X1

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Canada-NATO: The strong criticism by NATO countries of Canada's force reduction plans in Europe is apparently having an effect in Ottawa.

The Canadian ambassador to NATO recently suggested to US officials that Ottawa might be "reasonable" about its projected cuts, and that Defense Minister Cadieux would not make his planned public statement on the reductions before Parliament recesses on 23 June.

The ambassador also surmised that his government might revise its plans and cut its forces in Europe by only 50 percent--instead of the 66 percent announced recently to the NATO members. He further said that it was possible that Ottawa might agree to leave one or two air squadrons in a conventional role, in addition to the two reconnaissance squadrons currently planned.

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Approved For Release 2004/03/11 : CIA-RDP79T00975A014000030002-1

Next 3 Page(s) In Document Exempt

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25X1

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